



# Bellflower Unified School District

## Media Release

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## Bellflower Unified Schools to Host Sister City Delegation from Los Mochis, Sinaloa

**BELLFLOWER** – A delegation of 21 residents from Los Mochis, Sinaloa, will tour Bellflower Unified's Intensive Learning Center and Mayfair High School on Monday, Nov. 7, to launch the group's bi-annual Sister City visit to the local community.

The group, which alternates weeklong visits to Bellflower with hosting visits from Bellflower residents, celebrates the 60th year of its Sister City relationship with Bellflower this year.

"It's about good will," said Dorothy Westrup, a Bellflower Sister City Committee member who made her first visit to the Mexican city in 1962. "It's to make friends and keep friends in Mexico so they know who we are, not just from the commercials and news side of it, but who we really are deep down."

The delegation tours city hall, visits area theme parks, goes shopping in U.S. stores and always tours a Bellflower Unified elementary school and a high school. The group studies what students are learning in different grades and visits with teachers and students.

This year, the group will begin its tour of local schools at the Intensive Learning Center at 9:30 a.m. Nov. 7, 2016.

A red carpet will greet the visitors, who will receive paper flowers from kindergarten students and a song from first-graders in the Intensive Learning Center's dual-language immersion program. The popular Spanish-English program, started a few years ago, extends through third grade this year and adds a grade level annually.

Next, sixth-grader Eddie Martinez will perform two songs by trumpet and Principal Michael Remland will make a formal presentation on school programs. The delegation will then split into two groups to tour the campus with student ambassadors before assembling for a performance by the second grade.

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## Standard of Excellence - Nothing Less

Bellflower Unified School District provides a pathway for all students to attain the expertise and develop skills of academic excellence that will empower them to become lifelong active learners, demonstrate respect for themselves and others in a dynamic, diverse and global society, become responsible, informed, productive, independent and contributing citizens, and perform successfully in their chosen field and in society.



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The visit will conclude with a question-and-answer session with third-grade dual-language students.

Next, the delegation will trek to Mayfair High School to be greeted by cheerleaders and the school band. Student leaders will provide a presentation about the school, followed by a tour of the campus. Mayfair will highlight its health occupations class, one of its most popular career pathway programs. The visit will conclude with performance by the school's marching band.

"We are proud to be able to present our incredible academic programs – from our new dual-language programs to our highly regarded health career program – to our visitors from Los Mochis," Superintendent Dr. Brian Jacobs said. "We hope the school visits and interactions with students provide inspiration for efforts in their own educational community."

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